Jan. 1, 1935. A. L. THOMAS ET AL 1,986,689

HAIR STRAIGHTENING METHOD

Filed Sept. 23, 1933

Fig. 1.

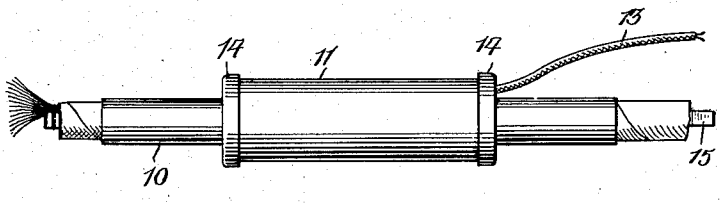


Fig. 2.

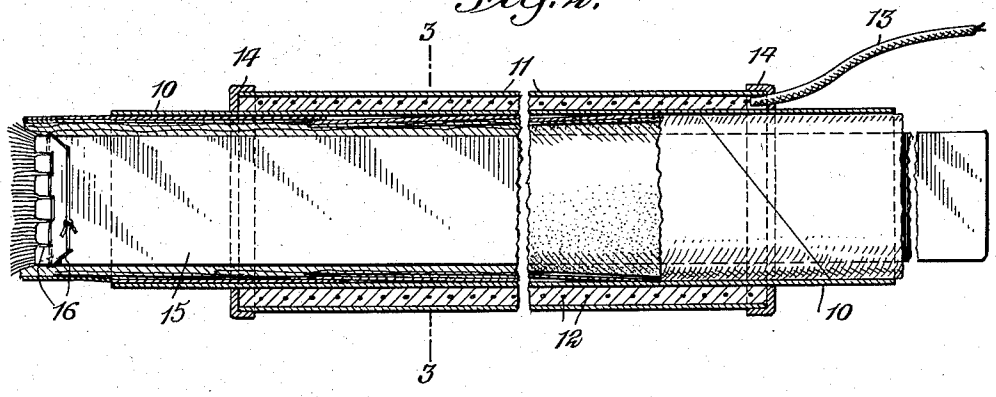


Fig. 3.

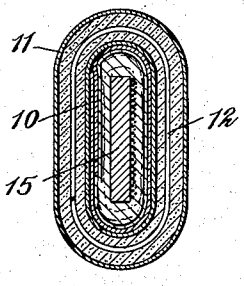
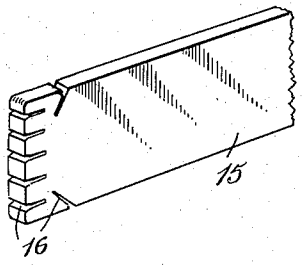


Fig. 4.



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HAIR STRAIGHTENING METHOD

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6 Claims. (Cl. 132—36)

This invention relates to a method of straightening kinky or wavy human hair.

An object of the invention is the provision of a method, whereby the straightening or altering of the structure of kinky or wavy hair may be effectually accomplished and so that the hair will be straightened with a permanent effect.

The invention consists in a method characterized by the novel and improved features illustrated in the accompanying drawing and hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side view of a device used in practice of the present method.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged longitudinal section of the device, portions thereof being broken away;

Fig. 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a view of one end portion of the flat bar or plate against which the hair is laid in the straightening operation.

The method contemplates the use of a device whose specific features are illustrated in the drawing by way of example. The device includes inner and outer tubular metal shells 10 and 11, respectively, each of which is substantially of oval formation with opposite sides practically flat. The inner shell 10 constitutes an oven and is longer than the outer shell 11. This outer shell 11 constitutes a cover for an electric heater 12, which is arranged in the space provided between the shells 10 and 11. The heater 12 may be of any suitable type, which has not been illustrated in detail but which consists of a shell of mica, heat-resisting and electrical insulating cement in which the heating element is embedded, and an outer asbestos covering which will be disposed next to the outer shell 11. An extension cord 13 having the usual conductors supplies current to the heater 12. The ends of the outer shell 11 are closed by collars 14, which are slipped over the inner shell 10 and are fastened to the outer shell 11 in any suitable manner. These collars are made of a heat-resisting and electrical insulating material. The extension cord 13 extends through one of the collars 14, as shown in Fig. 2. The device also includes a flat elongated plate or bar 15 of metal or any other suitable rigid material. The bar 15 is of a length to extend through the oven provided by the inner shell 10 and is of a cross-sectional size as to leave a space surrounding the same when disposed in the oven, which space will be occupied by the hair and other accessories to be hereinafter described. The bar 15 has a plurality of notches 16 in one end thereof to receive the cord or string for the purpose of fastening the hair to the bar. The manner in which the device is used in accordance with the method will be described hereinafter.

The present method differs from known methods of straightening kinky or wavy human hair which rely merely on a softening agent, pulling and stretching the hair, and then applying steam or heat, since it has been found that hair cannot be straightened simply by a solution, pulling and stretching, and application of steam or heat, but that the kinks must be ironed out before or after applying the softening agent, and before applying heat thereto. In accordance with the present method, the hair is first soaked with a solution that penetrates the hair to remove all grease and oily substance and thus soften the hair, after which the hair is dried. After this has been done, a suitable substance is applied to the hair which acts as a softener and a protector from heat and which will not produce steam when heat is applied. A strand of hair is then subjected to a suitable device which will clamp the strand of hair transversely thereof with a clamping pressure, the device being slid back and forth along the hair to iron out the kinks or waves therein. In this manner the hair is straightened. The straightened hair is then laid on the bar 15 of the device hereinbefore described and is secured at the scalp end by tying the same with a cord or tape extended in the notches 16 in the end and sides of the bar 15, as shown. Next, the absorbent material is dipped in a solution containing an ingredient to cut the solution previously used on the hair and also ingredients to soften the hair. The absorbent material is then wrapped around the bar 15 and the hair laid against the same in straightened condition. Next, a heat-conducting material, such as metal foil, is wrapped around on the absorbent material in such manner so that approximately one-quarter inch extends beyond the bar at the scalp end thereof. A felt pad is then slipped over the wrappings on the bar and is brought in contact with the scalp to protect the same from the heat, and a protecting clip of heat-resisting material is clamped over the wrappings beyond the bar to prevent the heat from escaping to the scalp. The oven 10 and attached heater are placed over the wrapped hair, and the current is turned on. Heat will be applied removing all moisture and acting on the structure of the hair whereby it will be changed so that the hair will remain straightened with a permanent effect.

We claim:

1. The method of straightening kinky human hair which consists in ironing out the kinks in the hair, then retaining the hair laid straight in the ironed condition, and subsequently subjecting the hair to heat.

2. The method of straightening kinky human hair, which consists in first removing the natural oil from the hair, then ironing out the kinks in the hair, then retaining the hair laid straight in the ironed condition, and then subjecting the hair to heat.

3. The method of straightening kinky human hair which consists in ironing out the kinks in the hair, then treating the hair with a softening agent, then retaining the hair laid straight in the ironed condition, and subsequently subjecting the hair to heat.

4. The method of straightening kinky human hair which consists in ironing out the kinks in the hair, securing the scalp ends of the hair to one end of a rigid flat bar and further retaining the hair laid straight on the bar in ironed condition, and then subjecting the hair to heat.

5. The method of straightening kinky human hair which consists in ironing out the kinks in the hair, securing the scalp ends of the hair to one end of a rigid flat bar and further retaining the hair laid straight on the bar in ironed condition by wrapping the hair with suitable material carrying a softening agent, and then subjecting the hair to heat.

6. The method of straightening kinky or wavy human hair which includes the step of ironing out the kinks or waves in the hair.

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